During the period 2002-2003 to 2007-2008, the NHRC has received a total number of 926 intimations about deaths in police custody. In 70 proven cases of violation of human rights, the NHRC either recommended interim relief/compensation or disciplinary action or prosecution of public servant or both during the period 2002-2003 to 2007-2008.

Loss of life and property due to floods

†566.SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been huge loss of life and property and livestock due to floods in various parts of the country;

(b) whether Government has made any assessment about the loss incurred to various States due to floods;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of financial assistance given by Government to various States for the help of flood victims?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RADHIKA V. SELVI): (a) As per the information received from the State Governments, based on their preliminary assessment, 2858 human lives lost, 23521 cattle lost, 27,676 lakh ha. cropped area, 16,30,218 houses have been reported damage due to heavy rains/ floods/ landslides during southwest monsoon 2008. The Figures showing the details of loss of human lives, livestock and agriculture cropped areas affected due to heavy rain/ floods/ landslide in the States/ UT are given as statement-I. (Refer to the statement appended to the answer to USQ 549 Part (a))

(b) and (c) As per the existing procedure, State Government concerned is required to submit a memorandum indicating sector-wise details of damage caused by the natural calamity and requirement of funds for relief operations by the State Government. On receipt of a Memorandum from the State, an Inter Ministerial Central Team is constituted for an on the spot assessment of the situation and requirement of funds for the relief operations. The report of the Central Team is considered by an Inter Ministerial Group (IMG) headed by Home Secretary. The High Level Committee headed by Hon'ble Union Agriculture Minister considers the request of the State Government based on the report of the Central Team, recommendations of the IMG thereon and extant items and norms of assistance and approves the quantum of assistance from National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF).

The State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, and Karnataka have, so far, submitted memoranda seeking additional Central assistance from NCCF for relief operations in the areas affected by the floods, heavy rains etc. during Southwest Monsoon, 2008. The Central Teams have visited these States. The report of the Central Teams will be processed as per the procedure as stated above. Ad hoc releases from NCCF of Rs, 1000.00 crore to Bihar, Rs. 300.00 to Assam and Rs. 98.87 core to Orissa have been made for management of heavy rains/floods etc. during Southwest monsoon-2008.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(d) A Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) has been constituted with an allocated amount for each State based on the Award of the 12th Finance Commission for the period 2005-10, which is contributed by the Government of India and the State Government in the ratio of 3:1. The State Governments are required to meet the expenditure for providing immediate relief to the victims of notified natural calamities *viz.* avalanches, cyclone, cloud burst, drought, earthquake/ Tsunami, fire, flood, hailstorm, landslides and pest attacks, as per the approved norms and items of assistance from the CRF. In the event of a calamity of a severe nature, in which the requirement of funds for relief operations is beyond the funds available in the States CRF account, additional Central assistance is also considered from National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF), after following the laid procedure.

The details showing the allocation and release of Central Share of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) and funds released from National Calamity /Contingency Fund (NCCF) during the year 2008-09 as a whole, is given as statement-II (Refer to the statement appended to the answer to USQ 549 Part (b) and (c))

Caste and class conflicts in Rajasthan

†567. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons killed or injured in caste and class conflicts in Rajasthan during the last two years, and the causes of these conflicts;

(b whether the offenders involved therein have been arrested; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Assessment on Custodial Deaths

568. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether four persons died or had been killed in prison and police custody every day during the period between 2002-07;

(b) whether according to Government figures, as many as 7468 custodial deaths have occurred in the period but only a fraction are convicted for it;

(c) whether this was revealed in the first ever nation-wide assessment for the use of the "Torture in India, 2008";

(d) whether this has been brought out in the report by Asian Centre for Human Rights, an NGO;

(e) whether Government has considered the report; and

(f) the steps proposed to be taken to avoid such custodial deaths in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (f) As per the guidelines issued by the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) to all State

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi